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NOTES AND NEWS

On 7 April 1959, in the presence of a numerous audience of distinguished guests, Friends of the Library and past and present members of staff, the New Wing of the South African Library was officially opened by His Excellency the Governor-General, Dr. the Hon. E. G. Jansen, in a speech which is printed later in this *Bulletin*. The audience in the new Africana Reading Room—named for Mr. A. C. G. Lloyd, Librarian from 1909 till 1938, who did much to build up the Collections—might have been even larger but for the outbreak of the first of the winter's storms, at the precise stroke of five o'clock. But fortunately this did not deter either His Excellency or the Secretary for Education, Arts and Science (Mr. J. J. P. Op 't Hof), the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor of Cape Town or many other guests from being present.

The Governor-General was welcomed by the Chairman of the Trustees of the Library, Hon. Mr. Justice L. van Winsen. After he had spoken in English and Afrikaans, Dr. Jansen was thanked by Mr. F. J. Wagener, Acting Chairman of the Friends of the Library. The ceremony was recorded, and parts were later broadcast on the national transmission of the S.A.B.C. After the speeches the Governor-General and his party examined the Grey Collection in its new quarters, and the Dessinian Library on the top floor, and refreshments were served to guests on the Main Floor. The torrential downpour did not appear to have dampened the spirits of the audience, for whom the occasion was another landmark in the long history of the South African Library.

* * *

As readers of this *Bulletin* will readily appreciate, the opening of the New Wing was the culmination of many years of negotiation and planning. As Dr. Jansen pointed out in his address, it is the first building extension to have been made at the Library for more than thirty years—and in thirty years, as librarians well know, a large library can (and often does) double its bookstock. The new extension has in fact come just in time to prevent

overcrowding from becoming chaotic; the Library has been given some breathing space, but in another fifteen years, the rooms that look so empty will be full. We may be forgiven therefore, while rejoicing in the fruition of plans made twenty or more years ago, for beginning to plan already for the next fifteen!

The chief gain, however, especially in a Library which concentrates predominantly on the conservation of printed (and secondarily of *private* unprinted) documents, is in the provision of modern, fire-resistant accommodation for the existing Rare Book Collections, and even more significantly, for material which its present owners may have hesitated to deposit until they are assured of these safeguards. This point, too, was made by Dr. Jansen when, after describing some of the existing Collections, he went on to say: "While the formation of such collections is perhaps becoming rarer in these days, when both houses and incomes are relatively on a smaller scale, the cost of everything having enormously increased, it is hoped that the new accommodation now provided—and particularly the safeguards against destruction—will induce owners of books and manuscripts to follow in the steps of those earlier benefactors. A Library of this kind must come increasingly to rely on gifts, bequests and endowments for the enrichment of its resources".

* * *

As a postscript to an appeal made at the Opening by the Chairman of the Trustees, Judge van Winsen, we are glad to record that during the present financial year provision has been made by the Government for the replacement of the old wall and fence on the Queen Victoria Street frontage of the Library, by a new one more in keeping with the Library's status and appearance. There will be direct access from the pavement to the steps leading to the new entrance, and when this has been provided it is expected that Capetonians—traditionally conservative in their habits—as well as visitors will find their way to the displays and exhibition areas of the new building.

* * *

After a recession of activities, due partly to pre-occupation with the preparations for the New Wing, the Friends of the S.A. Library have resumed their programme of evening meetings, and on 22 May 1959, an address was given by Mr. C. Pama on the document known as the *Manesse Codex*. On a night that was both wet and windy, the subject may have sounded a little abstruse, but those who attended Mr. Pama's address were rewarded not only with an entertaining account of the wanderings and adventures of

this thirteenth century manuscript, the Minnesinger, the illustrations, reproduced by the same artist, indicated various points in the life of the Minnesinger in gay colour. Mr. Pama communicated the following notes:

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this thirteenth-century manuscript—our chief source of information about the Minnesinger of the Middle Ages—but also by a display of many of the illustrations in this manuscript both from the small Insel-verlag book of reproductions, and in the single plates produced in a very limited edition by the same firm in 1926. The knights, whose importance was conventionally indicated by the relative sizes of their horses and themselves; the ladies in various poses of listening and applauding; the costumes, helmets and arms, in gay colouring; all came to life in a manner not easily forgotten, through Mr. Pama's own enthusiasm for things medieval and his ability to communicate it to his audience. The attractive large-scale plates have subsequently been on display in the Main Foyer of the Library.

* * *

Readers are reminded that the record of currently published books and pamphlets in and about South Africa which formerly appeared regularly as part of the *Quarterly Bulletin*, is now published as a separate work under the title *Africana Nova*. It appears quarterly, in the same month as the *Bulletin*, and the December number each year will have an index to items in all four numbers. The annual subscription is 10/- post free. We have been encouraged by the receipt of a number of enquiries from libraries in the United Kingdom, the United States and many other countries about this new bibliographical work; but we need 500 subscribers at least to make it pay for ordinary production expenses. Prospective subscribers, please note!

**THE NEW WING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY
OPENING SPEECH BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL
(Dr. the Hon. E. G. Jansen)
7 APRIL 1959**

The New Wing of the South African Public Library is the first building extension to be made at the Library for more than thirty years.

It has been designed with two main purposes in view: firstly, to provide better and safer accommodation for the valuable and largely irreplaceable rare book and manuscript collections which have been built up at this Library during the past century and a half; and, secondly, to provide additional storage facilities for the rapidly growing reference resources of the Library, which now comprise well over a quarter of a million volumes.

The Library itself has, of course, a long history. It was founded, under its present name, 141 years ago (in 1818), by a Proclamation which must be unique among the library charters of the world. The gauging tax on each barrel of wine sold in the Cape Town market, was set aside for a Fund for the formation of a Public Library which, in the words of the Proclamation, was "to place the means of Knowledge within the reach of the Youth of this remote corner of the Globe".

When it eventually opened in 1822, in quarters provided in what is now the Parliament Street side of the Old Supreme Court Buildings, the Library had combined forces with another library with a yet longer history. This was the Collection which was left in 1761 to the Cape Consistory of the Dutch Reformed Church by Joachim von Dessin, Secretary of the Orphan Chamber, to serve, as he put it in his will, "as a foundation of a public library for the advantage of the community". By arrangement with the Church authorities this Collection of mainly 17th and 18th century volumes has been housed at the South African Library ever since. In this New Wing it has been given suitable accommodation in the safest part of the building, as befits what is really the nucleus of all public libraries in South Africa.

During the nineteenth century the Library survived many vicissitudes. In 1828 it moved into a wing of the newly-built Commercial Exchange on the Parade, where it was noticed and favourably commented on by many visitors to the Cape. But it was not until Sir George Grey took a personal interest in its welfare that the Library became firmly established. He not only induced the Government to make the Library an annual grant-in-aid; he also obtained the valuable site on which the Library still stands. In September, 1860—a hundred years ago next year—the Old Main Building was opened as a Library and Museum combined, and in the following year, Grey presented to the Library and to the nation, the outstanding collection of his own early printed books and manuscripts, many of them of exceptional beauty and rarity. With this gift Sir George Grey conferred a new status on the Library, and set the example for many later, if less magnificent benefactions.

The room in which the Grey Collection was first housed has long been inadequate for modern requirements, and it is in part of the building which is by no means immune against destruction by fire. I am glad to say that in this New Wing the Collection has been given accommodation of more than twice the size of the old one, where it is hoped to bring scholars and students as well as members of the general public.

In 1922, the Central Reading Room was opened, the Government contributing half the cost. And in 1927, Sir Abe Bailey purchased C.A. Fairbridge's well-known library for the nation, and added the three-storey wing in which it is still housed.

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For many years, however, the Trustees of the Library have been pressing for additional accommodation. This has been partly for reasons of space but chiefly because the Old Main Building, which is nearly a hundred years old and largely constructed of timber, is far from being a safe home for such valuable treasures. Successive Governments, while aware of the position, were for one reason or another unable to assist, but ten years ago, when the State-aided Institutions—including this Library—were transferred to the care of the Department of Education, Arts and Science, positive steps were taken in this matter. The funds for this New Wing, amounting to £73,000 for the building itself, for fire-protection, lighting equipment and so forth, and a further £11,000 for shelving, have been provided by the Union Government. This surely indicates the importance that the Government attaches to this National Library in the cultural life of South Africa.

Since the fire-hazard has been so much in the minds of the Trustees and of the public in connection with this Library in the past, it is reassuring to point out that the whole of the north-western section of this New Wing containing the Grey Collection, the Dessinian Collection and the Security Stack below, has been safeguarded by the latest automatic fire-control system, similar to that installed at the Archives and the Library of Parliament. The rest of the new building is constructed of fire-resistant materials, and is separated from the older parts of the building by a series of steel fire shutters.

The room in which I am now speaking has been designed as a Reading and Research Room for the Library's extensive Africana Collections. No books will be lent from it, but members of the public who obtain Reader's tickets will have the opportunity of working here. The stack-room below will accommodate approximately 50,000 volumes, besides a large number of bound South African newspapers, of which the Library has important collections. In the room directly above us provision is being made for the housing of additional special collections and for a map-room, while a microfilm reading room has also been provided. The opportunity has also been taken to provide new workrooms and offices for the Library staff.

It will be seen, therefore, that this New Wing will enable the Trustees both to house and to display the resources of the Library in more spacious and far safer conditions than before. It will also enable them, with the support of the public, to extend their activities, and to make their resources better known, especially to the younger generation of South Africans.

In the past, this Library has been fortunate enough—to a greater extent, perhaps, than many other libraries in South Africa—to attract benefactions and bequests from members of the general public. I have already mentioned the Grey and Fairbridge collections. Reference should also be made to the series of private and political papers deposited here, such as the J. X.

Merriman, W. P. Schreiner, J. H. Hofmeyr, Molteno and Rose-Innes Papers, all of which constitute important source-material for the writing of South African history; to the Muir Mathematical Collection, one of the best of its kind in the world; to the Springbok and many other smaller collections.

While the formation of such collections is perhaps becoming rarer in these days, when both houses and incomes are relatively on a smaller scale, the cost of everything having enormously increased, it is hoped that the new accommodation now provided—and in particular the safeguards against destruction—will induce owners of books and manuscripts to follow in the steps of those earlier benefactors. A Library of this kind must come increasingly to rely upon gifts, bequests and endowments for the enrichment of its resources.

In the Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on the Libraries of the Union of 1937, it was stated that the South African Public Library, by its history, the position which it occupies amongst the libraries of the country, and its environment, should be “pre-eminently the Reference Library of South Africa and the recognized repository of its literary treasures”. By providing this New Wing, the Union Government has recognized the part that the South African Public Library is called upon to play in the life of the whole nation.

* * *

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Openbare Biblioteek is die oudste biblioteek in die land en het 'n baie interessante geskiedenis.

Sy oorsprong kan eintlik teruggevoer word na 'n bemaking van sy versameling boeke deur Joachim von Dessin, Sekretaris van die Weeskamer, aan die Konsistorie van die Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk te Kaapstad in 1761. Die Kerk het die versameling later vir bewaring aan die Biblioteek oorhandig en dit sal nou in hierdie nuwe vleuel gehuisves word.

Dit is interessant om te weet dat die Biblioteek self ontstaan het as gevolg van 'n proklamasie in 1818 uitgevaardig en waarin 'n sekere heffing op wyn ingestel is om 'n Fonds te stig vir die daarstel van 'n Openbare Biblioteek wat die verkryging van kennis binne die bereik van die jeug van die land sou plaas. Die Biblioteek is uiteindelik in 1822 geopen en was gehuisves in die ou Hooggeregshof-gebou. Later is dit verskuif na die Commercial Exchange op die Parade, wat ook lankal verdwyn het.

Die grootste weldoener van die Biblioteek in die ou dae was Sir George Grey wat nie alleen die destydse regering oorgehaal het om 'n jaarlikse subsidie te gee nie maar ook die perseel waarop die Biblioteek nou nog

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staan. Die ou hoofgebou is in September 1860 geopen as Biblioteek en Museum. In die volgende jaar het Sir George Grey die pragtige versameling van ou boeke en manuskripte geskenk wat nou ook in hierdie nuwe vleuel gehuisves sal word. Sir George Grey was ook in ander opsigte 'n weldoener van Suid-Afrika en daar is verskillende inrigtings in die land wat sy naam dra, die vernaamste waarvan die Grey Kollege in Bloemfontein is wat hy self gehelp stig het. Hy was 'n interessante figuur. Na sy Goewerneurskap in Kaapland is hy aangestel as Goewerneur van Nieu-Seeland. Daar het hy later lid van die Volksraad geword en vir 'n paar jaar was hy Eerste Minister. Sy naam sal altyd verbonde bly aan hierdie Biblioteek en dit is paslik dat sy standbeeld vlak by die gebou moet staan.

In 1922 is die Sentrale Leeskamer gebou waarvan die Regering helfte van die koste gedra het. In 1927 het Sir Abe Bailey die versameling van C. A. Fairbridge gekoop en dit aan die Biblioteek geskenk.

Hierdie nuwe vleuel met al sy toebehore is gebou vir ongeveer £84,000 wat verskaf is deur die Unie-regering. Dit sal stellig 'n beter en veiliger huisvesting wees vir die waardevolle boeke, manuskripte en ander stukke, insluitende talryke Afrikana, wat daarin bewaar sal word.

'n Openbare Biblioteek is 'n onmisbare bate vir enige gemeenskap en die Suid-Afrikaanse Openbare Biblioteek met sy plus-minus kwart-miljoen boeke is van onskatbare waarde vir die publiek, temeer weëns die talle van seldsame boeke, tydskrifte, manuskripte en ander werke wat hy bevat, en wat nêrens anders te vind is nie. Die Biblioteek is 'n bate, nie alleen vir Kaapstad nie, maar vir die hele land en die toevoeging van hierdie vleuel word algemeen verwelkom.

Dit is nou met groot genoë dat ek die nuwe vleuel ope verklaar.

It now gives me great pleasure to declare this New Wing open.

PORTRAITS OF LORD CHARLES SOMERSET

The Chinese have a saying that a picture is of more worth than a thousand words and it is tempting to speculate whether a portrait of Lord Charles Somerset, made during his period as Governor of the Cape, would modify to any significant degree the somewhat unattractive impression of his character conveyed to us in the writings of those with whom he found himself at variance—Thomas Pringle, John Fairbairn, and Sir Rufane Donkin—all men whose antagonism was as much political as personal. Political partizanship was greater in England then than it is today, and as Whigs they were not likely to agree with the ideas of a high Tory such as Lord Charles.

When Lord Charles stepped ashore at Cape Town on April 6th, 1814, to take over the Government of the Cape from Sir John Cradock, he was far from inexperienced. A vigorous and energetic man of forty-six, he had seen a great deal of life in the grand manner—as courtier and Privy Councillor to George III and his son, the Prince Regent—as an officer in the Army—as a Member of Parliament holding the office of Paymaster General to the Forces, and as a notable gentleman jockey and rider to hounds. He was a fond husband and doting father and was accompanied on arrival by his wife, two of his three daughters (Georgina and Charlotte) and two of his three sons (Charles and Plantagenet). His eldest son Henry, later Colonel Commandant of Kaffraria, was still serving as an officer in Wellington's army and remained in Europe.

It is unfortunate that no portrait painter was at hand to capture the likeness of Lord Charles during his controversial Governorship. The three-quarter length portrait with which we are familiar depicts him very much earlier, when he was a handsome young man in his twenties. It was painted by Cosway and shows Lord Charles in 1794 when he was a Captain and Lt.-Colonel of the Coldstream Guards. In the same year he became Colonel Commandant of the 103rd Foot (Somerset's Regiment) which he personally raised when a French invasion appeared imminent. The original of the portrait is in England, but a reproduction hangs in the South African Public Library.

During a visit to the National Portrait Gallery, London, recently the writer copied the following official description of it from the record book: "Face—round and young-looking; eyes, large blue; powdered hair; fair complexion. Military: Red Coatee, faced; very dark blue or black and gold epaulettes on both shoulders; white sword sling with plate over right shoulder. In front buss gorget with Royal shield of arms and supporters and red rosettes at horns. Black stock and white collar."

This is the only good likeness of Lord Charles that appears to exist. However its reproduction without an indication that it was painted some twenty years before he came to the Cape, is misleading, particularly for those who look for the assistance of a contemporary portrait in their interpretation of an historical personage.

A search of the records and reference books at both the National Portrait Gallery and the Drawings and Prints Section of the British Museum revealed no trace of any later portraits. But it did lead to the definite identification of a caricature in colour by Dighton dated 1811, depicting an officer on horseback set against a background of tree and country-side and entitled "A View of Somerset". In 1811 Lord Charles held the military rank of Lieutenant General in the Army and at the same time the political appointment of Joint Paymaster General to the Forces.





A VIEW of SOMERSET.

Wm. Dighton (Daddy Somerset)

National Portrait Gallery

The Dighton cartoon.



LORD CHARLES SOMERSET
From a pencil-sketch in the South African Library.

When the subject was n Charles. How Gallery, kind 6th Duke of unmistakable that Dighton and submitted Lionell Buck military unif

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¹ Reprint appears

When the caricature was shown to the writer the identity of Dighton's subject was not certain and lay between "a Duke of Somerset" and Lord Charles. However, Mr. C. K. Adams, Director of the National Portrait Gallery, kindly produced a portrait of Lord Charles' eldest brother, the 6th Duke of Beaufort, and a comparison between the two showed such an unmistakable family likeness as to leave no doubt in the mind of the writer that Dighton had Lord Charles Somerset in mind. Mr. Adams went further and submitted both the Cosway portrait and the Dighton drawing to Mr. Lionell Bucknell of Leatherhead, who is the foremost living authority on military uniforms.

In his report Mr. Bucknell, after referring to the military history of Lord Charles, wrote:

"You will see he was Captain and Lt.Col. of the Coldstream Guards from June 15th 1791, until May 1794, so that the portrait of which you have a photograph (copied from one owned by Mrs. Vere Somerset) may well have been painted in 1794 in accordance with tradition, as this undoubtedly shows him in the uniform of the Coldstream Guards. The Dighton caricature of 1811 would appear to show him in the undress uniform of a Lt. General as his coat is painted red. A blue coat with a black patch on the collar and black cuffs was prescribed for the paymaster and he was to have no epaulettes."

Only one other representation of Lord Charles is known, and from the physiological as well as the psychological aspect it is of even greater interest to the student of the Cape scene during the Somerset regime. It is a pen and pencil sketch by an unknown artist in the possession of the South African Public Library and was exhibited at the time of the 1820 Settler celebrations in 1956.¹ Showing Lord Charles in his middle age, probably during the latter part of his Governorship (1821-1826), the artist seems to have taken pains to delineate something of the character of his subject, and the face in profile under the cocked hat with a plume does not suggest many of the particular traits we have learned to associate with this controversial Governor.

The wide staring eyes, the distinguishing Beaufort nose, and the obstinate chin, as in the Cosway portrait, are there, but the expression of haughty self-confidence has gone. Instead there is an air of worry, anxiety and even bewilderment.

If the features and expression are suggestive of pride and obstinacy, as well as intelligence and energy, they certainly convey no impression of viciousness. It could be the face of a well-intentioned autocrat but never that of a ruthless tyrant.

¹ Reprinted in this number on the opposite page. A small reproduction also appears on p. 169 of John Noble's *Official handbook of the Cape, Juta, 1896.*

Such an interpretation seems to be supported by many passages in the Somerset-Bigge correspondence (1823-1826) in which Lord Charles writes frankly and intimately of his worries and anxieties, particularly on the threat to his honour represented by the accusations made against him to the two Commissioners of Inquiry, of whom Mr. Bigge was the senior.

Referring to the accusation that he had been influenced favourably towards those who had bought horses from him in making grants of land, he wrote in a letter to Commissioner Bigge:

"I cannot refrain from repeating how grieved I am at your absence which must cause me to suffer a most painful suspense until Ld Bathurst can be assured with a complete refutation to this diabolical calumny—and which unfortunate delay also lengthens the period that Colonel Bird and Mr. D'Escury will have for stabbing my character. To persons in opposition this holding of office may appear to have the sweets—but to one who has been as unfortunate as I have been at the Cape there is *no Compensation* that can make amends for what a man of feeling and honour is exposed to and is doomed to suffer in the Performance of his Duty as a Public Servant."

The words seem a genuine "cri de coeur".

It must here be recorded that Lord Charles Somerset was completely exonerated of any malfeasance in connection with horses or any other act during his Governorship, not only by the Commissioners of Inquiry, but also by the House of Commons.

In Parliament that inveterate enemy of the Beaufort family, the Whig lawyer and politician, Henry Brougham (later Lord Brougham) withdrew all charges he had preferred against Lord Charles, who would very probably have returned to the Cape to resume his Governorship had not the Government in England been reconstituted in 1827 and the more liberal wing of the Tory party, of which the Beaufort family disapproved, come to power with the aid of the Whigs. And looking at the anxious bewilderment of his expression in the last likeness of him by the unknown artist one is reminded of the description "poor Lord Charles" used by Lord Auckland in no fewer than three of his letters to Lord Grenville in 1806 when the whirligig of politics had brought a Whig Ministry to power and deprived Lord Charles Somerset of his job as Joint Paymaster General. Lord Auckland hoped that "poor Lord Charles" would fall on a "bed of down". Lord Charles regained his post as Paymaster General in 1808 which saw the return of a Tory government, but by then it was not a bed of down or a bed of roses but the Cape of Storms that lay but a few years ahead.

A. KENDAL MILLAR

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THE 120 DIAGRAMS OF SIR ANDRIES STOCKENSTRÖM

I recently purchased from an English bookseller's catalogue an autograph letter written by Sir Andries Stockenstroom to John Fairbairn. The catalogue gave little indication as to the nature of the contents, or the date, and when the letter arrived I found that it bore no address, and the only date was "Aug. 5".

The contents were as follows:—

Aug. 5.

"My Dear Mr. Fairbairn,

If you think the annexed too strong pray remember that it is a farewell address, or perhaps a deathbed confession, for I feel more and more that I cannot last much longer and I should not like to die in debt to the rascals.

God bless you all,
Yours faithfully,
A. Stockenstroom.

I send you Cathcart's posthumous book which perhaps you will present as a nucleus to the Public Library mentioned in pg. 390 so that the committee may have some of the passages I have marked engraved on brass plates and fixed on the front door."

After reading the letter several intriguing questions suggested themselves to me and I listed them as follows:—

- (1) What was the year of the letter?
- (2) Where was the letter written?
- (3) What was "the annexed"?
- (4) Who were the "rascals"?
- (5) What was "Cathcart's posthumous book"?
- (6) Which was the "Public Library" mentioned in pg. 390?
- (7) Were the engraved brass plates ever fixed to this library's front door?

Number 5, "Cathcart's posthumous book" seemed the easiest place to start the research, and my first step was to refer to Mendelssohn.¹ From this invaluable bibliography I learn that Sir George Cathcart had been killed at Inkerman in 1854, and that the *second* edition of his "Correspondence" had been published by John Murray in 1857.

As Stockenstroom refers to "Cathcart's posthumous book" in the postscript, this information set the earliest date at about 1855. In the South African Library, however, I found the first and earlier edition of Cath-

¹ Sidney Mendelssohn, *South African Bibliography*. Kegan Paul, 1910, 2 vols.

cart's "Correspondence"² published by the same publishers in August, 1856, and curiously enough omitted from Mendelssohn, so I knew the letter could not have been written before August, 1856.

The obvious next step was to tackle question number 6, and find out which Public Library was mentioned on pg. 390 by referring to this page of Cathcart's book. I found that the library in question was the Queens-town Public Library³. This immediately suggested that Stockenstrom was out of the country when he wrote the letter, because why should he otherwise have sent the book to Fairbairn for re-posting to Queenstown?

I was now well on the way to answering question number 1, about the date of the letter, and question number 2, about the address, and tackled both these questions at once by referring to Stockenstrom's Autobiography⁴ (also in the South African Library), to find out where he was in 1856. In volume II I found the following passage:—

"Now then, having come to London in 1856 on my way to Edinburgh, I intended to place my sons at the High School, and pitch my tent for the remainder of my days; my health was in such a state that my medical and other friends thought that I should be guilty of suicide if I were to go further North for the winter. I consequently spent the first cold season in Nice, and the next in Naples, returning in 1858 through Rome, Florence, Venice, Milan, Como and Switzerland and intermediate town and country to England, being determined to defy the climate for the sake of my sons, whom I placed in King's College; but unable to settle down and become a resident, being obliged to take lodgings from week to week to be ready to move to a warmer climate at a moment's warning.

Thus, unsettled, I held out to October, 1860, but my life being then considered in danger, and a trip to the Cape, the only chance of saving it, I departed, leaving my family behind.."

The references early in the letter to his health tallied with his despondent note to Fairbairn that "I feel more and more that I cannot last much longer," and seemed to indicate that the letter was written in 1856, or 1857, shortly after his arrival in England. At the most the two limits in years were 1856 and 1860. Stockenstrom was, incidentally, unduly pessimistic because he was not to die for 8 years after he penned this note!

As the letter had clearly been written to Fairbairn in his capacity as

² *Correspondence of Sir George Cathcart*, John Murray, 1856.

³ Extract of a letter from T. H. Bowker to Lady Cathcart: "At Queens Town we are commencing arrangements for the erection of the 'Cathcart Memorial'. This, the Committee of which I am a member, have determined shall be a 'Public Library' which is to be erected in the Hexagon in the centre of Queens Town, where will be placed a tablet with a suitable inscription."

⁴ *Autobiography of Sir Andries Stockenstrom Bart.*, Cape Town, Juta & Co., 1887, 2 vols.

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editor of the *South African Commercial Advertiser*, it was obvious that the next step was to refer to files of this paper.

Commencing with August 1856, I perused the paper until I found, to my joy, what was quite clearly the "annexed" in the issue of October 2nd, 1856. Under the title, "The 120 Diagrams", the editor, Fairbairn, set out a letter signed "A. Stockenstrom". This letter to the editor was clearly dated and addressed:

"London
July 28th, 1856"

Any other doubts about the date of the letter I had purchased, were settled by the fact that the previous issue of the *South African Commercial Advertiser*, dated September 30th, reported the arrival of the *Steamer England* which left Dartmouth on August 6th, 1856, and which "brought the latest news and correspondence from England".

Questions 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 were therefore answered. The answer to question 3 was, of course, that the "annexed" was the letter headed "The 120 Diagrams". The answer to question 4, who were the "rascals", was now obviously to be found by perusing the "annexed".

The facts set out in this letter are dealt with briefly later in this article, but the letter opened with a reference to the proceedings of the Legislative Council at the Cape as reported in the *S.A. Commercial Advertiser* of May 27th, 1856.

These proceedings dealt with the report of a *Select Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to examine and report on the papers laid by His Excellency the Governor on the Council Table, relative to 120 diagrams alleged to have been submitted for title deed, after the decease of the Surveyor whose signature said diagrams profess to bear*. The members of the Select Committee were Mr. Godlonton, chairman; Messrs. Cock, Vigne and Wood.

This Select Committee was appointed as a result of the debate in the Legislative Council on March 25th, 1856. The proceedings at this debate were reported in the *S.A. Commercial Advertiser* and two quotations from this report are sufficient to indicate the splenetic nature of Stockenstrom's speeches in the Council.

"A good deal has been said about agitators; if he (Sir A.S.) happened to be in the remotest degree referred to in that speech which warned the Council of the mischief by such agitations as these, then he congratulated the country and the House that within a week he hoped to be away. For as long as he had breath within him he should 'agitate' every case of oppression till justice was done."

Later in the same debate:—

"Sir A. Stockenstrom apologised to the Hon. Secretary for his

violence which unfortunately was constitutional and was one of the causes which induced him to withdraw from public life. He could not help it; strong language he intended but violent demeanour he did not intend."

One wonders whether any contemporary politician would make such a remarkable admission in public!

The surveyor in question was Lt. White, who was killed on the banks of the Bashee River during the Kaffir War of 1835. A memorial to this Lt. White, designed by the artist Frederick l'Ons⁵, is still to be seen on the walls of Grahamstown Cathedral.

Lt. White's character was cleared by the Committee which, in its findings, stated that the members had "examined every document carefully without detecting the slightest imputation on the character of either of the officers whose conduct has been made the subject of implied but severe censure. That there was irregularity in completing the diagrams in question, is abundantly shown; but the peculiar circumstances of the case were of such a nature as very amply to excuse though not to warrant or justify the objectionable procedure".

In commenting in the "annexed" upon these findings and the subsequent debate reported in the *S.A. Commercial Advertiser*, Stockenström remarks that he has "too much respect for my honourable friends among my colleagues . . . to leave them in the dark on any subject they may have to discuss and on which I can throw the least light". He assures the editor that "you may be quite sure I am not going to take up your time with the justification of any act or word of mine", and points out that the "Select Committee itself cannot avoid making admissions of irregularities and improprieties which are disgraceful to any civilised Government, and which entailed upon the unfortunate colony a scandalous waste of thousands upon thousand of re-surveys".

He suggests that although the House had called for all papers relative to the "120 diagrams" from 1837 onwards, and although he had given the Clerk of the House several documents relating to this period, the Select Committee only examined the documents dating from 1839.

With regard to the "120 diagrams" he questioned the morality "of quietly slipping them into my hands as the work of the true surveyor (Lt. White) for me to issue 120 title deeds on, and thus deceive 120 of Her Majesty's subjects".

The "rascals" then were the members of the Select Committee. But not them alone. He goes on to say: "so much then for the forgery question. About the attacks on myself I am not going to detain you." (Nevertheless,

⁵ J. J. Redgrave and Edna Bradlow. *Frederick l'Ons, Artist, Cape Town, Maskew Miller, 1958.*

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he does detain the readers for half a column of small print!) Now emerge the further "rascals", his detractors. He had hoped when he "last stepped from the Cape Jetty" that he "might have been allowed to forget these men. If I could remember ever having cast a straw in their way, except as a sacred public duty, I should not die easy without having made ample amends. As their hatred was notorious, I have in self-defence for upwards of twenty years bearded them, defied them, provoked them to bring forward boldly and openly a shadow of a charge against me. If in that centre of gravity there were an atom to be found that could destroy all that is dear to me, we know that heaven and earth would have been moved to bring it to the surface to be applied in one full sweep. Their failure is the proof of their impotence." He refers to these detractors as "the exterminators, the smugglers of gun-powder, fire-arms and brandy, the slaughterers of Grylling's fat oxen, and those who were urging the Boers to emigrate to obtain possession of their lands."

Finally, he admits "there is nothing of the 'suaviter in modo' in this communication", and that he should be "heartily ashamed of the acrimony, but the absolute necessity which renders the maxim expressed by the motto of the order of my sainted name-sake of Scotland, much more appropriate".

I now had the answers to my first 6 questions. Question 7 about the brass plates on the Queenstown Library was easily disposed of by correspondence. The librarian of the Cathcart Memorial Library informs me the brass plates were never fixed to the door, nor can they find the Stockenstroom copy of "Cathcart's posthumous book" with the marked passages. Although this answers question 7, I find it unsatisfactory. I would rather the marked passages could be found and I am curious to know if Fairbairn ever sent the book to Queenstown. Enough of Stockenstroom's character has been shown to prove these passages would be interesting!

Finally, "the maxim expressed by the motto of the order of my sainted name-sake of Scotland", is presumably the motto of the Order of the Thistle: *Nemo me impune lacessit*, or, in the vernacular, "wha daur meddle wi' me?"

If the title of this contribution sounds like a "who-dun-it", this exercise in historical research was for me very much a piece of detective work. The mystery of how Lt. White came to sign 120 survey diagrams after his death is in itself an interesting incident of South African history but unfortunately falls outside the scope of this paper. It was not the least fascinating part of my research and one that suggests further investigation.

FRANK R. BRADLOW

E. F. STEEB AND COLONEL GRAHAM'S SAVAGE TRIBES

On 10 May 1822 Edward Orme of Bond Street, London, published a work which is to be found in most large Africana collections, although copies do not often appear in sale catalogues to-day.

Its title is as follows: *A Collection of Portraits, of the Savage Tribes inhabiting the Boundaries of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope. Taken from the Life in 1812, by an Officer of the 21st. Lt. Dragoons, engaged in an Expedition against these Tribes, under Lt. Col. Graham.* There are eight of these plates, lithographed in colour. The Officer-artist has, so far as I know, not hitherto been identified.

The plates (numbered in the sequence in which they are bound in the South African Library's copy) are entitled:

- I A Kaffer Chief.
- II A Boshesman with poisoned arrows.
- III A young Boshesman.
- IV Hottentot girl.
- V A young Hottentot.
- VI Hottentot woman.
- VII Female Hottentot with a child.
- VIII A Boshesman.

It is evident, on closer examination, that these plates fall into two distinct groups. Numbers I, II, IV, V, and VIII are by a different hand from numbers III, VI and VII. Not only is the style different, but the first series are signed "D.D." Moreover, these five plates carry the information that they are lithographed by McQueen and Co.; this information is lacking on the other three.

By one of those chances which from time to time assist us to reduce the number of unanswered Africana queries, the original of one of the hitherto unsigned plates was recently acquired by Mr. William Fehr of Kenilworth, which he has kindly allowed us to reproduce in illustration of this article. It is quite clearly the original of plate VII in the *Collection*, and below it is written: *Een Hottentottin met haar kind. bij Christenen in Dienst. Sneuwberg den 3 Sept: 1812. door F. Steeb.* A comparison with the published plate shows a few variations—in the lithograph the spidery-looking dark sash is thinned out to a bow at the right hip, the nine rows of beads at the woman's waist are reduced to seven, and the left foot has been turned at right angles to the right foot, but otherwise there has been little touching-up. Moreover, on comparing both the original and the plate with numbers III and VI in the published collection, it is clear that these three are all by the same hand.



*Eine Hottentottin mit ihrem Kind, by Christiaan Jan Daniel Steeb
 tekening des 3. Sept. 1832. van E. Steeb*

By courtesy of Mr. Wm. Fehr

E. F. STEEB'S ORIGINAL OF PLATE VII IN THE "SAVAGE TRIBES", 1832.

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Who, then, was F. Steeb, and in what circumstances was the original painting made? The first part of this question can be answered, but so far documentary evidence is lacking for the second.

Ernst Friedrich Steeb was born at Tübingen, in the Duchy of Württemberg, on 24 February 1756¹. He was the son of the Landtag-Deputy and Bürgermeister Johann Friedrich Steeb, and Agnes Maria Barbara Steeb, née Möck. One of four children, he entered the University of Tübingen in 1771, in his sixteenth year, as a law student², his father having died in 1768; his mother died in 1772. Destined for a military career, he was appointed Lieutenant and Auditor in the Württemberg Grenadier Regiment "von Augée", and on 13 December 1778, to the same rank in the von Phull'schen Mounted Grenadier Regiment. Eight years later, on 16 December 1786, he was promoted to the rank of Hauptmann and Auditor in the Württemberg Infantry (Cape) Regiment,³ which arrived at the Cape in 1788.⁴

In the Hauptstaatsarchiv Stuttgart there still exists a petition made by Steeb in 1782, asking for promotion to the Infantry Regiment, and pointing out that he had already served as Auditor in the Duke's service for nine years⁵. A deposition in the Ducal archives attests to Steeb's abilities, including his knowledge of French, and also to his good conduct, although he was in trouble later for publishing (anonymously) a sharp criticism of the reception accorded to the Cape Regiment by the French on their march from Ludwigsburg to Vlissingen in 1787⁶. He seems to have had a weakness for seeing himself in print, for an exhortation he addressed to his troops on "The duties of an honest soldier serving with his officer's colours" was subsequently printed for wider consumption.

Up to this point the records are fairly informative, although there is no evidence that Steeb had artistic proclivities. The records of his subsequent career are unfortunately very sparse. It is known that he arrived at the Cape with the Regiment in 1788, and his name appears as a member of the Court-martial in Cape Town⁷. We are also told that in 1791 he was repatriated, with five other officers, "for health reasons"⁸. The City Archivist at Tübingen states that Steeb may indeed have returned to that city, where

¹ Information kindly supplied by Dr. Weisart, City Archivist, Tübingen.

² Hermelink, *Matrikeln der Universität Tübingen*, Band 3, nr. 36992. Information kindly provided by Archivist of the Hauptstaatsarchiv Stuttgart, Dr. Miller.

³ Infanterie-Regiment Württemberg (Kapregiment): Offiziersstammliste III, S.478.

⁴ J. Prinz, *Das Württembergische Kapregiment, 1786-1808*, Stuttgart, 1932, 2nd edition, p.69 et seq.

⁵ *Akten des Kapregiments* (Bestand A 33), Faszikel I, nr. 3. Information from Dr. Miller.

⁶ (E. F. Steeb), *Begebenheiten der nach dem Vorgebürg der guten Hoffnung bestimmten Herzogl. Württemb. Truppen. Erstes Stück. Die Reise von Ludwigsburg bis Vlissingen enthaltend. Ein Auszug aus dem Briefe eines bei gedachten Truppen stehenden Offiziers*. Frankfurt & Leipzig, 1787. Title quoted in Prinz, op. cit., p.348.

⁷ Prinz, op. cit., p.120.

⁸ Prinz, op. cit., p.138.

his parents had been respected and leading citizens. On the other hand it is known that in 1774 he had disposed of his share of the family inheritance to his elder brother, so that there was no material incentive for him to return. In any case, a search in the records has failed to yield any useful information about his subsequent career.

Similarly, enquiries at the Cape Archives have so far not produced any evidence of Steeb's re-entry to the Cape. His name does not appear in the Army Lists, or the British Regimental lists in the Cape Almanacs for 1812. Perhaps we shall never know the circumstances in which he found himself in the Sneeuwberg on 3 September 1812; did he, perhaps, not return to Europe at all, preferring to stay when the Regiment left for the Celebes later in 1791, and even when they returned *via* the Cape, for their homeland, in 1808? This is all conjecture; all we can say is that his paintings must have reached London before 1822, since this was the year in which they were published by Orme.

Who, then, was the "Officer of the 21st. Lt. Dragoons" who contributed the other five plates, and whose initials have been taken to be "D.D."? Again, there is no officer with these initials in the Army Lists of that regiment at that time. It has been conjectured that the initials are not "D.D.", but "D.O.". In the South African Library's copy of the work, the late Major William Jardine pasted a note in his own writing: "Savage tribes: some of the prints have the initials D.O. or D.D. David Orme (painter, 1766-1832), relative of Edward Orme—the publisher. Did David Orme work up the originals of an Officer of the 21st. Dragoons?". Had the firm of Edward Orme not long since gone out of business (with whatever records they may have kept), one might have had some hopes of identifying the mysterious artist. In matters of this kind, one man's guess is as good as another's. Tentatively, therefore, I put forward the hypothesis that the real artist was a Lieutenant Donald Drummond of the 60th, which was serving with Graham's forces on the Border in 1812; that someone (possibly even an Officer of the 21st Lt. Dragoons) took the five plates by Drummond and the three by Steeb to Edward Orme; and that the latter had them lithographed and published in the form that we know to-day.

How tame in comparison will be the researches 150 years hence, among the (usually) carefully documented archives of the mid-twentieth century!

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SOUTH AFRICAN PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

Supplementing the Handlist of South African Periodicals received under the Copyright Act, current in December 1951.

NEW PERIODICALS RECEIVED (to 30 April 1959)
(Including old ones received for the first time)

- Agricultural Extension/Landbouvoorligting.** Division of Soil Conservation & Extension, Department of Agricultural Technical Services, Agriculture Building, Beatrix Street, Pretoria. v.1, no.1, March 1959. Q
- Al-Asr.** Darut Tabligh-il-Islami (Islamic Mission House), 121 Church St., Cape Town. Free. v.1, no.1, February 1959. M
- Al-Majuddid.** The Editor, P.O. Box 2333, Durban. 3d. p.c., 3/6 p.a. v.1, no.1, January 1959. M
- Consumer.** National Federation of S.A. Consumer Associations, 139 Eastwood Street, Arcadia, Pretoria. v.1, no.1, December 1958. Q
- Garden Cities Outlook.** Editor, P.O. Box 42, Howard Centre, Pinelands. v.1, no.1, March/April 1959. Bi
- Geneeskunde.** Redakteur, Posbus 1010, Johannesburg. v.1, no.1, 31 January 1959. M
- Heidelberger.** J. D. Jordaan, Grand Hotel Geboue, Voortrekkerstraat, Heidelberg. Tvl. 3d. p.c., 12/6 p.a. no.1, 6th March 1959. W
- Ikhwezi Lomso.** Ikhwezi Lomso (Pty.) Ltd., 799 Mbombo Street, Queenstown. 6d. p.c., v.1, no.1, July 1958. Q
- In Town Today/Vandag in die Stad.** Johannesburg Publicity Association, P.O. Box 4580, Johannesburg. Free. 22nd December/4th January 1959. F
- Kerkstem.** Maandblad van die Ned. Geref. Kerk te Vanderbijl Park-Noord. v.8, no.2, February 1959. M
- Noord News/Nuus.** Noord Press, P.O. Box 182, P.O. Broughton, Johannesburg. Free. v.1, no.1, May 1958. M
- Pretorianer.** Transvaalse Boer (Edms.) Beperk, Posbus 20, Pretoria. 6d. p.c., 6/- p.a. v.1, no.1, December 1958. M
- Psygram.** S.A. Psychological Association, Department of Psychology, University of Pretoria. v.1, no.1, January 1959. *Mimeographed.* M
- Quo Vadis.** Sinodale Deputaatskap vir Evangelisasie van die Geref. Kerke in Suid-Afrika, Posbus 2030, Pretoria. Free. no.6, n.d. Q
- Southern Africa Financial Mail.** The Financial Mail (Pty.) Limited, 174 Main Street, Johannesburg. 2/- p.c., £2/14/0 p.a. F
- Southern States/Suidelike State.** The Editor, 625 Union Centre, 31 Pritchard Street, Johannesburg. v.1, no.1, January 1959. M
- Uvuyo Lwamakholwa.** Mahon Mission Press, Frere, Natal. 6d. p.a., no.1, Jan./March 1959. Q

CEASED PUBLICATION

(Issue noted is last that appeared)

- Civic News.** v.1, no.10, August 1958.
- Frontier (Comic).** no.8, January 24th, 1959.
- Gist.** v.3, no.2, June 1956.
- Helikon.** v.6, no.28, April 1958.
- S.A. Printer & Stationer.** v.36, no.4/5, April/May 1956.
- Trowel/Troffel.** v.6, no.38, November 1957.
- Voorpos.** no.8, 24th January 1959.

CHANGES OF TITLE, ADDRESS, INCORPORATIONS, ETC.

Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers Monthly Report became The Woodworker/Die Houtwerker with no.1, March 1959.
Colonial Plant & Animal Products became Tropical Science with v.1, no.1, January/March 1959.

Sokhel'-Umilo became Umhlanganisi with the issue for December 1958.
S.A. Winning Post. New address of Joymar Publishing Co., 30-36 Baker Street, Durban.
Springbok News became Springbok Radio News with no.124, January 1959.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS/STAATSUITGAWES

[N.B.—On account of shortage of space, Government Publications are listed in English and Afrikaans in alternate issues, with references to the edition in the other language. *Eng. & Afr.* indicates that the English and Afrikaans versions are printed together in one volume. *Afr. uitgawe* and *English edition* refer to the separately-published Afrikaans and English editions. Sub-headings are given in both languages. In this issue the main entries are in Afrikaans; in the next they will be in English.—Ed.]

U.G. Serie/Series 1958

U.G.-40. Verslag van die hoofbestuurder van die Spoorweë en hawens oor die jaar geëindig 31 Maart 1958. Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1958. xii, 259 p. illus., maps (fold.), tables, diags. 32½cm. 27/6. *Eng. edition* xii, 259 p.

U.G.-49. Verslag oor Landbou- en veeteelproduksie, 1954-55. Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1958. iv, 204 p. tables. 31cm. (Landbou-sensus no.24). 40/-.

Eng. & Afr.

U.G.-52. Deel III van die Verslag van die Kontroleur en ouditeur-generaal vir die boekjaar 1957-58 oor die appropriasie-rekenings en diverse rekenings (met uitsondering van Spoorweë en hawens) en die finansieestate. Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1958.

[v], 571-855 p. tables. 32½cm. 33/-.

Eng. & Afr.

U.G.-53. Nasionale adviserende raad vir werkkolonies en toevlugte, sesde jaarverslag . . . 1956. Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1958.

[i], 11+[i], 11 p. tables. 32½cm. 4/6.

Eng. & Afr.

U.G.-56. Verslag van die Kontroleur en ouditeur-generaal oor die rekenings van die Sigoreibeheerraad vir die boekjaar . . . 1955

tot . . . 1956 . . . Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1958. 21 p. tables. 32½cm. 2/-.

Eng. & Afr.

U.G.-58. Ag-en-veertigste verslag van die Staatsskuld-kommissaris vir die boekjaar . . . 1958. Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1958.

[ii], 33 p. tables. 32cm. 9/6.

Eng. & Afr.

U.G.-61. Verslag van die Kontroleur en ouditeur-generaal oor die rekenings van die Sitrusraad vir die boekjaar . . . 1956 tot . . . 1957 . . . Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1958.

23 p. tables. 33cm. 3/9.

Eng. & Afr.

U.G.-62. Verslag van die Kontroleur en ouditeur-generaal oor die rekenings van die Eierbeheerraad . . . 1956 tot . . . 1957 . . . Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1958.

19 p. tables. 32½cm.

Eng. & Afr.

U.G.-63. Verslag van die Kontroleur en ouditeur-generaal oor die rekenings van die Kaapstad-melkraad vir die tydperk . . . 1956 tot . . . 1957 . . . Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1958.

[ii], 3-9 p. tables. 32½cm. 2/6.

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U.G. Serie/Series 1959

U.G.-1. **Begrotings van die uitgawes** wat uit inkomsterekening gedurende die jaar wat op 31 Maart 1960 eindig bestry moet word (met uitsondering van Spoorweë- en hawensadministrasie). Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1959.

xiv, 280 p. tables. 32½cm. (Eerste druk). 10/6.

Eng. & Afr.

U.G.-2. **Begrotings van die addisionele uitgawes** wat bestry moet word uit inkomste- en leningsrekenings gedurende die jaar wat op 31 Maart 1959 eindig. Parow, K.P., Cape Times, 1959.

[i], 21 p. tables. 32½cm. (Eerste en laaste druk). 3/6.

Eng. & Afr.

U.G.-5. **Suid-Afrikaanse spoorweë en hawens:** begroting van die uitgawe wat bestry moet word uit inkomstefondse gedurende die jaar wat op 31 Maart 1960 eindig. Parow, K.P., Cape Times, [1959].

[iii], 92 p. tables. 33cm. (Eerste druk).

Eng. edition [iii], 92 p.

U.G.-6. **Suid-Afrikaanse spoorweë en hawens:** begroting van uitgawe aan kapitaal- en verbeteringswerke vir die jaar wat op 31 Maart 1960 eindig. Pretoria, Staatsdr., 1959.

[i] ii, 95 p. tables. 32½cm. (Eerste druk).

Eng. edition [i]ii, 95 p.

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